

Claims

1. A method for enhancing content during a broadcast event for remote
viewers having a local storage device for storing the broadcast event and playing back the
5 broadcast event, the method comprising:

the local storage device storing the broadcast event;

a personal interactivity recorder (PIR) storing interactive content provided from a server system and related to the broadcast event and temporally associating the interactive content with the broadcast event;

10 when the broadcast event is played back from storage, the PIR providing to the user the interactive content during times within the stored broadcast event when such content would have been displayed when the event was broadcast.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the local storage device includes functionality for fast forward, rewind, and pause functions.

15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the temporal associating includes using one or more of absolute time codes, relative time codes, and frame sequence numbers.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the interactive content includes trivia questions, the user has an input device for entering an answer, and the PIR stores the correct answer and provides to the user an indication of a correct or incorrect answer after 20 the user enters an answer to a question.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the interactive content includes poll questions, the PIR storing poll results, the user has an input device for entering a response, and the PIR provides poll results after the user enters a response to the poll question.

25 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the interactive content and video broadcast event are stored on the same medium.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the PIR uses the processing and storing functionality of the local storage device.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the local storage device includes a hard drive.

5 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the local storage device includes a hard drive.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the PIR stores and plays back messages sent by other viewers using a chat functionality during the broadcast event.

10 11. The method of claim 1, where in the broadcast event and interactive content are sent over different channels of transmission.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the PIR includes processing and storage.

13. A system for use with a local storage device for storing the broadcast event and playing back the broadcast event, the system including a personal interactivity recorder (PIR) for storing interactive content related to the broadcast event and transmitted at the time of the broadcast event and temporally associating the interactive content with the broadcast event, such that when the broadcast event is played back from storage, the PIR provides to the user the interactive content during times within the stored broadcast event when such content would have been displayed when the event was broadcast.

20 14. The system of claim 13, wherein the local storage device includes functionality for fast forward, rewind, and pause functions.

15. The system of claim 13, wherein the PIR is programmed to use one or more of absolute time codes, relative time codes, and frame sequence numbers to temporally associate the content with the broadcast event.

25 16. The system of claim 13, wherein the interactive content includes trivia questions, and the PIR stores the questions and answer provided during the broadcast.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the PIR provides to the user an indication of a correct or incorrect answer after the user enters an answer to the trivia question.

18. The system of claim 13, wherein the interactive content includes poll questions, and the PIR stores poll questions and results during the broadcast event for
5 display when the broadcast event is played back.

19. The system of claim 13, wherein the PIR uses the same storage medium as the broadcast event.